

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

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3 1. (currently amended) A method, comprising:
4 monitoring an electronic document for user annotations;
5 recognizing entry of an annotation into the electronic document;
6 collecting context data proximal to the annotation; and
7 locating information related to the annotation using the annotation and the
8 context data;

9 wherein the collecting context data further comprises:

10 deriving at least two search terms;

11 comparing the search terms to a history of search terms; and

12 weighting each of the search terms according to whether a particular
13 search term is included in the history of search terms, a higher weight being
14 assigned to a search term that is included in the history of search terms; and

15 wherein the locating information related to the annotation further
16 comprises:

17 determining keywords that are likely to be of interest to a user based
18 on the annotation and words contained in documents previously accessed by
19 the user; and

20 using the keywords to locate information.

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22 2. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the collecting
23 context data further comprises extracting one or more words from text proximal to
24 the annotation.
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1 3. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the collecting
2 context data further comprises locating objects near to an annotation object in a
3 document object model (DOM) associated with the annotation.

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5 4. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the collecting
6 context data further comprises:

7 defining a first distance from the annotation;

8 defining a second distance from the annotation;

9 locating one or more keywords that are within the first distance from the
10 annotation;

11 locating one or more keywords that are within the second distance from the
12 annotation but not within the first distance from the annotation;

13 weighting the one or more keywords according to their distance from the
14 annotation, with keywords within the first distance having a greater weight than
15 keywords within the second distance but not within the first distance; and

16 wherein the locating information related to the annotation utilizes the
17 keywords according to the weights assigned thereto.

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19 5. (canceled)

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21 6. (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the
22 history of search terms further comprises a history of search terms used by a
23 particular user.
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1 7. (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the
2 history of search terms further comprises a history of search terms used by all users
3 of a particular group of users.
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5 8. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the locating
6 information related to the annotation further comprises searching the electronic
7 document for terms that match or are similar to the annotation.
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9 9. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the locating
10 information related to the annotation further comprises searching remote sites for
11 documents containing terms that match or are similar to the annotation.
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13 10. (canceled)
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15 11. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim ~~40~~ 1, wherein
16 the ~~previous documents~~ that were previously accessed by the user are limited to
17 documents accessed within a specified time period.
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1 12. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the
2 ~~locating information related to the annotation determining keywords that are likely~~
3 ~~to be of interest to a user based on the annotation and words contained in~~
4 ~~documents previously accessed by the user~~ further comprises:

5 determining keywords that are likely to be of interest to ~~a the~~ user based on
6 the annotation and words occurring with the annotations in previous ~~the~~ documents
7 ~~that were previously accessed by the user; and~~

8 ~~using the keywords to locate information.~~

9
10 13. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein an annotation
11 further comprises one of the following types of annotations: circle, underline,
12 block, arrow, callout, free note, post-it note.

14. (currently amended) A system, comprising:

an annotation monitoring module configured to monitor an electronic document for entry of an annotation;

an extraction module configured to collect context data that appears near an annotation entered into the electronic document and to extract one or more keywords from the context data, the extraction module further configured to determine keywords that are likely to be of interest to a user based on words contained in documents previously accessed by the user;

an information processing module configured to utilize the annotation and the keywords to locate related content; and

a history module that includes one or more historical keywords that were previously used in the system in at least one query for one or more searches;

wherein the extraction module is further configured to weight keywords according to whether or not the keywords are included in the history module; and

wherein the information processing module is further configured to locate the related content based on the annotation, the one or more keywords from the context data, and the weighted keywords as weighted according to whether or not the keywords are included in the history module.

15. (canceled)

1 16. (currently amended) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein:
2 the context data further comprises a plurality of keywords derived from text
3 proximal to the annotation;

4 the extraction module is further configured to weight each keyword
5 according to a relative distance that the keyword is from the annotation; and

6 the information processing module is further configured to locate the
7 related content ~~initiate a search based on the annotation and the weighted~~
8 keywords as weighted according to the relative distance that each keyword is from
9 the annotation.

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11 17. (currently amended) The system as recited in claim 16, wherein the
12 search is performed using the annotation as a search term and the results of the
13 search are re-ranked according to the weighted keywords as weighted according to
14 the relative distance that each keyword is from the annotation.

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16 18. (currently amended) The system as recited in claim 16, wherein the
17 search is performed using a query derived from the annotation and the weighted
18 keywords as weighted according to the relative distance that each keyword is from
19 the annotation.

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21 19. (original) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein the related
22 content located by the information processing module further comprises keywords
23 contained in the electronic document.
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1 20. (original) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein the related
2 content located by the information processing module further comprises
3 documents on a network that contain one or more of the keywords.
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5 21. (currently amended) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein the
6 information processing module is further configured to determine suggested
7 keywords that are likely to be of interest to the user based on the annotation and
8 words appearing in other documents previously accessed by the user ~~wherein~~ in
9 which the same annotation was entered.
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11 22. (original) The system as recited in claim 21, further comprising a
12 user interface configured to present the suggested keywords to the user and
13 provide for selection of none or one or more of the suggested keywords by the
14 user.
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1 23. (currently amended) One or more computer-readable media
2 containing computer-executable instructions that, when executed on a computer,
3 perform the following steps:

4 recognizing an annotation entered into an electronic document by a user;

5 collecting context data related to the location of the annotation to produce
6 keywords;

7 determining keywords that are likely to be of interest to a user based on
8 words contained in documents previously accessed by the user; and

9 locating additional content that may be of interest to the user by executing a
10 search with search terms selected from (i) one or more words indicated by the
11 annotation and (ii) one or more keywords derived from the context data and from
12 the documents that were previously accessed by the user and by weighting at least
13 a portion of the search terms based on a keyword history list that includes
14 previously-used keywords that were used in at least one query in one or more
15 previous searches.

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17 24. (original) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in
18 claim 23, wherein the annotation is an annotation included in the following set of
19 annotations: a circle, a box, an arrow, an underline, a double underline, a bracket, a
20 highlight, a handwritten character, a free note, a post-it note.

1 25. (original) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in
2 claim 23, wherein the collecting context data related to the location of the
3 annotation further comprises collecting objects occurring within a certain distance
4 from an annotation object in a document object model associated with the
5 annotation object.

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7 26. (original) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in
8 claim 23, wherein the locating additional content further comprises locating one or
9 more local keywords in the electronic document.

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11 27. (currently amended) The one or more computer-readable media as
12 recited in claim 23, wherein the locating additional content further comprises
13 locating one or more documents on a network that include one or more words
14 indicated by the annotation or one or more keywords derived from the context data
15 or from the documents that were previously accessed by the user.

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17 28. (original) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in
18 claim 23, wherein the locating additional content further comprises deriving the
19 one or more keywords from the context data by identifying words that frequently
20 appear with the annotation in other documents accessed by the user.

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22 29. (canceled)

1 30. (previously presented) The one or more computer-readable media as
2 recited in claim 23, further comprising:

3 ranking search results according to the weighted search terms.
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5 31. (currently amended) The one or more computer-readable media as
6 recited in claim 30, wherein the previously-used keywords were previously used by
7 a current user, and wherein the weighting of at least a portion of the search terms
8 comprises assigning a higher weight to search terms that are included in the
9 keyword history list for the current user.

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11 32. (currently amended) The one or more computer-readable media as
12 recited in claim 30, wherein the previously-used keywords were previously used by
13 all users in a group of users, and wherein the weighting of at least a portion of the
14 search terms comprises assigning a higher weight to search terms that are included
15 in the keyword history list for the group of users.

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18 33. (new) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
19 detecting user input of a gesture that is associated with a search task;
20 wherein the locating information related to the annotation using the
21 annotation and the context data is performed responsive to the detecting.
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1 **34.** (new) The method as recited in claim 33, further comprising:
2 assigning, by the user, the search task to the gesture so as to associate the
3 gesture with the search task.
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5 **35.** (new) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein the information
6 processing module is further configured to perform a search to locate the related
7 content responsive to when the annotation monitoring module detects user input of
8 a gesture that is associated with a search task.
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10 **36.** (new) The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim
11 23, further comprising:

12 detecting user input of a gesture that is associated with a search task;
13 wherein the locating additional content that may be of interest to the user by
14 executing a search is performed responsive to the detecting.
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